

## CHRISTINE BENSEN ANDERSON

### **Biography from the Lehi Centennial History**

Christine Bensen Anderson, wife of Mons Anderson, was born June 11, 1826, at Aarnage, Island of Bornholm, Denmark. She accepted the gospel from the first missionaries sent to Denmark, and was baptized by Elder George P. Dykes, August 24, 1850.

She was living in Copenhagen at the time of her conversion. She gave the elders financial aid, and took great pleasure in helping to teach the Danish language to Erastus Snow. Soon after her conversion, she was asked to accompany the elders to Bornholm her native island, to do missionary work. Her parents, Yeppe and Maren Bensen, gave them a home, and she helped to support the elders, and assisted them in their missionary work.

She was the second convert from Bornholm to join the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She left her native land for Utah, December 24, 1852, on the sailing vessel, "Forest Monarch," in Elder John Forsgren's company. They were ten weeks crossing the ocean, arriving in Salt Lake City, October 3, 1853. The overland journey was made by ox team, and Miss Bensen walked all the way, besides caring for an invalid, and cooking for eight people.

She was married to Mons Anderson, July 3, 1854. They endured all the hardships of that early day, making their home in Salt Lake City till the spring of 1858, when they moved to Lehi.

Their first home here was a dugout, and later two small adobe rooms. She engaged in pioneer industries, such as carding, spinning, and weaving.

She was the mother of five sons and one daughter, and an active Relief Society worker for over twenty years. She endured the hardships of early days with cheerfulness and patience. Lehi was her home till the time of her death, December 28, 1909.